New Scholarships in LIHC

Thanks to a generous gift from Fran and Glen Ross, Lloyd International Honors College (LIHC) will soon be able to offer new scholarships to honors students. The Ross Scholarship will be awarded to students enrolled in LIHC.

LIHC also offers the Lena Anne Gordon International Honors College Scholarship to two incoming first-year students. The Gordon Scholarship is a one-time $1,250 award based on merit. Recipients are students who are admitted to LIHC with preference given to students in the School of Education, the School of Health and Human Sciences, and the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance.

LIHC also supports a rising junior or senior through the Lichtin Family Honors Scholarship, awarded to a student who has an exemplary academic record and holds the promise for continued high-level work in Honors. The scholarship is competitive, and students must apply in the spring. The recipient is announced at the annual Honors Banquet and carries an award of up to $1,100.

In addition, LIHC expects to take over the distribution of the Reynolds Scholarships in Fall 2015. The Reynolds Scholarship Program provides renewable scholarships of $6,000, awarded each year to outstanding incoming freshmen from North Carolina. Reynolds Scholars are also eligible receive two $1,250 stipends to be used for community service involvement and an internship, and $2,500 to be used for study abroad.

The Reynolds Scholarship Program’s commitment to community service and study abroad supports LIHC’s goals to prepare students to lead successful and fulfilling professional, civic, and personal lives. The Honors Colloquium, a required 1-credit hour course for all incoming LIHC freshman, introduces honors students to service-learning and connects them with community partners in their first semester. The Honors College also requires International Honors students to complete an approved International Experience as one of their program requirements.

New Programs in LIHC
LIHC rolls out the Artists in Residence and the Student-Designed Interdisciplinary Program in Fall 2014.

Chancellor’s Residential Fellow
Dr. Colleen Kriger reflects on her experiences as the 2013-2014 Chancellor’s Residential Fellow in Lloyd International Honors College.
Honors Living: Gray Hall Honors Fellow
Shana Shuemate

The 2013-2014 academic year saw the inauguration of the Gray Hall Honors Fellows, honors students and residents in Gray Hall who create and execute programming for their peers in the areas of civic engagement, academic research, personal and professional development, and arts appreciation. The very first Gray Hall Honors Fellow, Shana Shuemate, a sophomore pre-vet and professions in deafness major, coordinated programs on professionalism and etiquette, and Disciplinary Honors. She also coordinated a Gray Hall Movie Night, an egg hunt to prepare for final exams, a spelling “dragon” (instead of spelling “bee”), and helped with various honors events in Gray Hall. Below she answers a few questions about her first year.

Why do you think honors housing is important?
Honors housing is important because it makes the Honor's college seem more appealing if it has nicer living opportunities. Living in an honors dorm gives students a common ground when it comes to meeting other people. Honors students tend to be moving in the same general direction as each other and it would make making friends a lot easier.

What has been the most enjoyable aspect of working as a Fellow?
The most enjoyable thing about being a Fellow is creating programs on my schedule. The Honors College is really flexible with me and allows me to clock my own hours so I'm not stressed with working and going to school full-time. Again, with me being the first and only Fellow, there is a bit of leeway as I work out the kinks. I have more slack when it comes to making programs and I use that slack to throw my creative twist on everything I do. It's a lot of fun when new people come down to the programs and have fun while gaining insight on different things.

What are the overall benefits to having Fellows in Gray Hall?
I think the benefit of a Fellow in Gray Hall is that the Fellow will do all the searching for interesting things to learn about and create fun events to go to and the residents can just go. Not saying that the Fellow is someone that who is a servant to the students in Gray, but I look at them as being a relief from learning things in a straightforward or dull way. Fellows should bring fun and learning to the table in order to benefit the students in Gray.

Rebecca Lloyd, UNCG Alumna and Benefactor, Dies at 83

Story and photo courtesy of University Relations

Rebecca Lloyd, the woman who gave her family’s name and her support to UNCG’s Lloyd International Honors College, has died.

Lloyd, a 1950 graduate of Woman’s College, died May 21 in San Diego. She was 83.

In 2006, Lloyd gave UNCG a $4 million gift to endow the Honors College, the largest alumni gift the university has ever received. In 2009, the university gave her an honorary doctorate, naming her Doctor of Humane Letters.

A retired U.S. Navy commander, Lloyd later worked as a commercial realtor in San Diego.

The daughter of grocer Aubrey Paul Lloyd and seamstress Georgia Garrison Lloyd, she was born May 29, 1929, in Greensboro. The Honors College is named for her parents.

At Woman’s College, now UNCG, she earned a degree in recreation. After graduation, she joined the Navy.

While working on her master’s degree in personnel management at New York University, Lloyd served as a course instructor in the Naval Correspondence Course Center. She continued her work in several capacities in the Navy, including serving in Washington as communications and budgeting officer at the Office of Chief Naval Operations, in Yokohama, Japan, as assistant chief staff officer, and in the Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet.

Of her support for the Honors College, Lloyd once said, “The International Honors College will give students the international viewpoint that’s needed in their education. To the extent that my gift could help world peace come about, I’m happy to be making it.”
AROUND THE COLLEGE

HeLa Panel Debate
Drs. Heather Gert, Tara Green, and Karen Katula participate in the Honors Summer Read Panel “Immortal Cells, Persistent Questions” in September 2013.

2013 Cording Ceremony
Academic Adviser Shelley Ewing and Assistant Dean Sarah Krive pose with December graduate Christian Cook at the Cording Ceremony in November 2013.

FAST FACTS

266
Number of LIHC students enrolled in a foreign language class in Spring 2014. Spanish had the largest enrollment with 92, followed by French (52), American Sign Language (46), and German (35).

8.9%
Percentage growth of LIHC from September 2013 (827 students) to September 2014 (901 students). The number of students attempting Full University Honors (meeting both International and Disciplinary Honors requirements) saw an increase of 31.5%.

NEW PROGRAMS IN LIHC

In the Fall 2014 semester, Lloyd International Honors College will roll out two new programs: the Student-Designed Interdisciplinary Program (SDIP), co-sponsored with the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), and the Artists in Residence Program (AIR), co-sponsored with the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance (SMTD) and the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Office (URSCO). These programs join the Academic Think Tank on the list of curricular and co-curricular opportunities offered exclusively to honors students.

Self-Designed Interdisciplinary Program

Dean Timothy Johnston of the College of Arts and Sciences approached Dean Jerry Pubantz of Lloyd International Honors College last fall about the possibility of jump-starting a self-designed major which had been under-utilized in CAS.

Dean Pubantz explains, “Dean Johnston and I thought a restructured program open only to Honors College students would appeal to high-ability prospective students who were seeking to attend a university that could provide studies in their unique academic interests.”

SDIP is offered to students who are looking for a customized degree experience. Through SDIP, students may combine courses from different departments to create a curriculum tailored to his or her interests. Students who can focus their interests on a particular problem or specific area of investigation are encouraged to work closely with an academic adviser to ensure that the proposed course of study will meet both UNCG’s graduation requirements and LIHC’s standards of rigor.

“This is the kind of intellectual inquiry that honors students find particularly appealing,” says Dean Pubantz. “They have the academic curiosity, interdisciplinary mindset, and self-discipline to pursue this type of individualized program.”

Honors students who are interested in creating a SDIP must be in good standing with the college (3.3 GPA or higher) and must meet with an Honors Academic Adviser to begin the process.

Artists in Residence Program

The Honors College will also begin accepting applications for its inaugural Artists in Residence Program. Partnering with SMTD and URSCO, LIHC will offer honors students the opportunity to develop a creative vision for a full academic year, providing a $500 stipend and an additional $250 for supplies, if needed.

The program seeks to support those students who have training in the visual, written, and performing arts but may not be majoring or minoring in those fields at UNCG.

Dean Pubantz was approached by Dr. Peter Alexander, Dean of SMTD with an idea for collaborating with the Honors College. The project eventually grew to include URSCO. In partnering with SMTD and URSCO, the Honors College gained the resources and expertise it needed to bring the idea to fruition.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the requirements for International Honors, Disciplinary Honors, and Full University Honors, visit honorscollege.uncg.edu
Throughout the academic year, the Honors College will provide opportunities for the Artists in Residence to share their progress with the community. They will present their final works at the Thomas Undergraduate Research Expo on April 7, 2015.

Dean Pubantz believes that Honors College students are uniquely qualified to put the fellowships to good use. “Honors students, regardless of their majors, exhibit the breadth of interest and talent that we need to make the Artist in Residence program a success.”

Dean Pubantz notes that the nature of the Honors College community also makes it an ideal home for the AIR Program. “They [the artists] are also part of a community that can support, critique, and appreciate their year-long work.”

A Cornucopia of Offerings

The Honors College also offers the Academic Think Tank each year exclusively to Honors Students. The Think Tank brings together a faculty team, highly qualified honors students, and community partners to address a societal issue or problem. Honors students must apply to take part in the Think Tank, which combines course credit and individual research projects to cover a full academic year. The participants in the most recent Think Tank Ecologically SANE: Stoked About Natural Environments (pictured at the beginning of the article) ended their year-long collaboration with a two-day Chautauqua, bringing together environmental experts from around the country.

Dean Pubantz believes that the success of the Think Tanks and the initiation of the SDIP and AIR Programs speak to the growing role of LIHC on campus. “I am very pleased that the Honors College has reached a point in its development where it can innovate with exciting new programs and do so in collaboration with other academic units on campus,” he says.

He further suggests that they offer a new layer of interest to the Honors College. “These two programs coupled with the Academic Think Tank begin to establish a character to the College that adds to its already well-known commitment to international and disciplinary education.”

New Agreement with Durham Technical Community College

During the summer months of 2014, Lloyd International Honors College finalized the details on a Memorandum of Understanding with Durham Tech Community College that would allow students who graduate from the honors program at DTCC to transfer to the Honors College at UNCG with the opportunity to earn Full University Honors. “This MOU provides talented Durham Tech students, particularly those with interest in languages and global issues, to transfer to UNCG and earn Full University Honors. We’re pleased to collaborate with students coming from Durham Tech’s comprehensive general education Honors Program and offer them a path through Honors at UNCG,” says Dr. Sarah Krive, Assistant Dean of Lloyd International Honors College.

Representatives from DTCC, including Tracy J. Mancini, Dean of Arts, Sciences, and University Transfer, visited UNCG’s campus in July to finalize the Memorandum and to learn more about the opportunities offered by LIHC. LIHC has had a similar understanding with Southwestern Community College in Sylva, NC, for 3 years.

Students from these institutions who come to UNCG with an Associates in Arts (AA) or an Associates in Science (AS) can earn Full University Honors with an approved International Experience, proficiency in a second language (through the 204-level), and the completion of Disciplinary Honors in a chosen major.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Questions about this agreement or any other aspect of the LIHC curriculum can be answered by the Honors Academic Advisers.

LIHC ONLINE
askhonors@uncg.edu
Chancellor’s Residential Fellow Professor Colleen Kriger

For the 2013-2014 academic year, students in Lloyd International Honors College had the opportunity to take classes with Chancellor’s Residential Fellow Colleen Kriger. Established in 2010, the Chancellor’s Residential Fellowship invites a UNCG faculty member to teach full-time in LIHC and participate in the life of the College for a full academic year. As the Chancellor’s Residential Fellow, Dr. Kriger, UNCG Professor of History, contributed courses on Rwandan Genocide, Images of Africa on Film, and Joseph Conrad’s Heart of Darkness in addition to teaching one of the freshman Colloquium courses.

Dr. Kriger’s research interests focus on the history of Western and Central Africa, particularly on commodities and currencies trade. She teaches courses in African history in UNCG’s History department, especially the sequence HIS 203 History of Africa to 1870 and HIS 204 History of Africa since 1870. She has previously taught the Rwandan Genocide course for the Honors College, but was interested in engaging more with Honors students. “I was really happy when I received it [the Chancellor’s Residential Fellowship], because I love teaching,” she says.

Teaching in LIHC provided Dr. Kriger with the opportunity to teach topics she had not engaged with for some time. “It really is a kind of intellectual refreshment to teach something that’s been set aside for a number of years,” she notes. “You see it in a new way.” The smaller class sizes were also invigorating. “I got to try out a lot of things!” she says. Dr. Kriger accepted the fellowship at a time when she was considering pedagogical changes, trying to shift her focus to the process of learning. “I pulled the rug out from under them,” she says. “No quizzes or tests, but open-book exercises. It gave them the chance to learn while doing.”

She was particularly gratified by the focus on in-class discussion: “It was more fun for me; it wasn’t just me singing an aria before an audience.”

Smaller class sizes and co-curricular activities gave Dr. Kriger the opportunity to get to know LIHC students well. “Having better, closer relationships with students was a great thing,” she says. She considered her LIHC students to be ideal discussion participants:

“There was a lot of give and take...not necessarily disagreement, but [the voicing of] other views...the students were very good at doing that.”

Dr. Kriger found an eager audience for her passion for Africa in LiHC students. She explains, “My goal in teaching is to get students to realize that going to Africa is a good thing to do.” She believes that the U.S. media continues to perpetrate stereotypes and myths about Africa that can only be countered by increased travel to the continent. Many of her honors students had already been to Africa or were actively planning for it as their required International Experience.

This spring, Dr. Kriger was awarded a fellowship from the National Humanities Center for the academic year 2014/15. The NHCL, in Research Triangle Park, NC, was established in 1979 as an independent institute that supports advanced research projects in the humanities. The center offers nine-month residential fellowships to scholars working in disciplines such as history, philosophy, literature, religion, archaeology, and linguistics. This year, thirty fellows were selected from among 362 applicants from around the world. Dr. Kriger aims to complete her third book Life, Death, and Business on the Upper Guinea Coast, currently under contract with Ohio University Press.

Dr. Kriger finishes her year as the Chancellor’s Residential Fellow with an appreciation for LIHC’s role on campus. She says, “I think that it’s hugely important to have a model on campus with a commitment to really rigorous academics.” She calls attention to the role Disciplinary Honors plays in the development of good research skills by requiring a Senior Honors Project and giving students the credit hours to work closely with a faculty mentor to learn what it takes to create a high-quality research paper. Dr. Kriger also recognizes LIHC a place “that’s shining a light on superlative quality thinking and mentorship” with the Student Excellence Awards. But in her mind, the Honors College is important to all UNCG students: “Even if students are on the outside, it still plants the idea that there are other heights to aspire to.”

Honors Banquet
Assistant Dean Sarah Krive and Academic Adviser Shelley Ewing pose with the graduating senior Honors Ambassadors at the Annual Honors Banquet, held in April 2014.

Honors Convocation
Dean Jerry Pubantz addresses the audience at the 52nd Annual Honors Convocation. Undergraduate and graduate students are awarded the university’s highest academic honors every April at the Convocation.

Honors Symposium
Dr. Angela Bolte, Director of Disciplinary Honors and Student Life, stands with awardees Ananya Huria, Jessica Straehle, and Lynn Cochran at the 14th Annual Undergraduate Honors Symposium in February 2014.
Kelly Donovan, Fulbright Fellow

UNCG and LIHC alumna Kelly Donovan has had a busy – and highly visible -- year. UNCG Now featured her on the UNCG homepage in August 2013 ("Making Cultural Connections"), and continued to shine a spotlight on her activities, featuring her again in April 2014 ("For two recent grads, the future looks Fulbright") and highlighting her in the 2013-2014 Chancellor’s Report ("UNCG Top Scholars"). Kelly, who graduated in December with Full Honors, will soon be heading to Taiwan as a Fulbright Fellow, teaching English and working as a cultural ambassador. Below, Kelly answers questions about studying abroad, applying for the Fulbright, and what she’ll miss most while away.

Where was your International Experience for International Honors?
I studied at Beijing Normal University in Beijing, China. I took classes through their Chinese Language Learning Program and spent 20 hours a week in Mandarin classes! Spending time abroad and learning about the culture on the Mainland (People’s Republic of China) definitely made me want to continue studying Mandarin.

How did you become interested in Taiwan?
My very first connection to Taiwan was through the Interlink Conversation Partner’s Program. My freshman year at UNCG I got paired with Yi-Wen Tu and she was from Taiwan. She helped me with my Mandarin and I helped her with her English. She introduced me to the world of Taiwanese Dramas to which I became shamelessly addicted.

How do you think living in Taiwan long term will be different from your other study abroad experiences?
I am going to be teaching English in Kinmen (Jinmen/Quemoy), Taiwan. It is a tiny island very close to Mainland China. I definitely think it will be different. I have never lived on an island, so I’m sure the cuisine will be fish heavy. It also doesn’t have any cities that qualify as cities (by Asian standards), so I’m sure I will get stared at quite a bit … Maybe it won’t have the “Taiwanese” culture I’m expecting and the People’s Republic of China might heavily influence it… or maybe I’ll be shocked at how different it will be.

Aside from family and friends, what do you think you will miss most about America while you are gone?
Oh man, I have a list: 1) Tap water- can’t drink the water in Taiwan, must boil; 2) Sanitary public bathrooms- bring your own soap and toilet paper everywhere you go in Taiwan (and China); 3) Air conditioning and heating- Southern regions of China (this includes Taiwan) don’t often provide heating in the winter, and most Chinese medicine believers think air conditioning causes colds; 4) Chocolate, bread, and cheese- Most Chinese/Taiwanese are lactose intolerant and therefore cheese isn’t really big in their cuisine. They also don’t have ovens, and bread is a staple in my life.

Do you have any advice for other students who are contemplating applying for a Fulbright?
To anyone considering applying to Fulbright or any other prestigious scholarship, I would say firstly to believe in yourself. You hear all the time that Fulbright (Rhodes, Gates Cambridge, Critical Language Scholarship, etc.) is so prestigious and famous that it becomes a little disheartening. You end up thinking, “Do I match up with the people who get this scholarship? People from Ivy League schools with impressive resumes are going to be apply for this!” This type of thinking is the worst. Yes. You can get a Fulbright Scholarship. However, it is going to take a lot of work. Be prepared to start working early. You have to think about what makes you valuable to the program and explain it in a way that shows you as an asset that is still humble and willing to learn through the experience.